

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 19 line 9 with the following:

Similarity analysis includes database search and alignment. Examples of public databases include the DNA Database of Japan (DDBJ) ([\[\[www.\]\]available on the worldwide web at ddbj.nig.ac.jp](http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp)); Genebank ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Web/Search/Index.html](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Web/Search/Index.html)); and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory Nucleic Acid Sequence Database (EMBL) ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/embl_db/embl-db.html](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/embl_db/embl-db.html)). Other appropriate databases include dbEST ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST /index.html](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/index.html)), SwisProt ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/swisprot_db/swisshome.html](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/swisprot_db/swisshome.html)), PIR ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at nbrt.georgetown.edu/pir](http://www.nbrt.georgetown.edu/pir)), and The Institute for Genome Research ([\[\[www.\]\] available on the worldwide web at tigr.org/tdb/tdb.html](http://www.tigr.org/tdb/tdb.html)).